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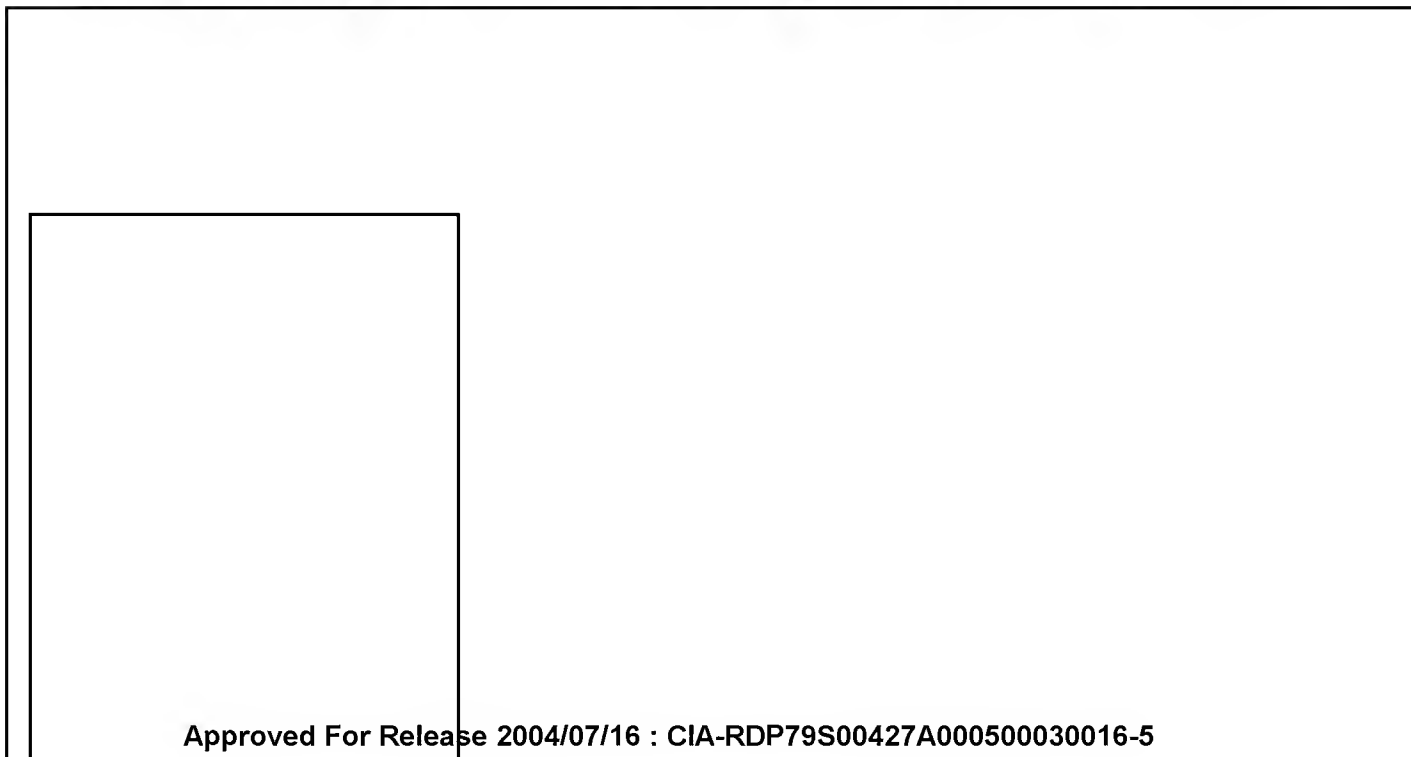
28 May 1961

1. North Vietnam's own spokesmen provide the best testimony to the guiding role Hanoi plays in the paramilitary and political offensive currently being waged against South Vietnam's President Diem.

2. Terrorism was given official sanction last summer by politburo member Nguyen Chi Thanh writing for the August-September issue of Boc Tap, the North Vietnamese party journal. Extolling violence as a technique for achieving power in Vietnam, Thanh put guerrilla terrorism in the context of a Communist holy war by repeatedly citing Lenin as an authority that violent revolution "constitutes the foundation of Marxist-Leninist doctrine"--a doctrine in which the masses must be "methodically instructed." Thanh specifically called for development of guerrilla forces. 1/

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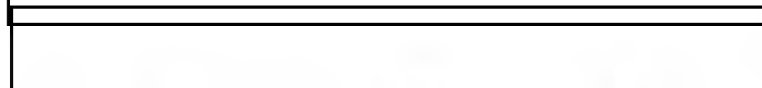
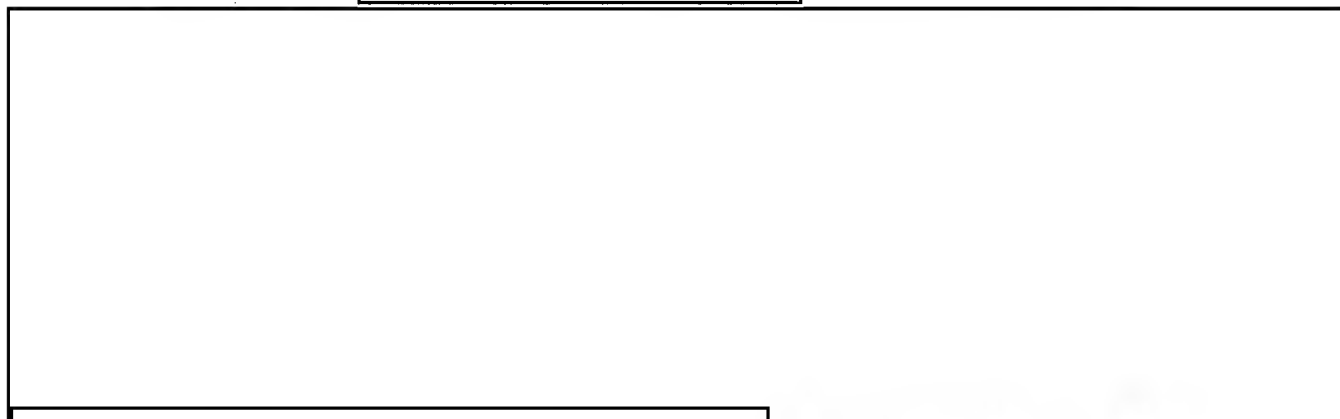
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over 1,000 civilians were murdered by the Viet Cong in 1960. On 19 October, Hanoi Radio boasted in a broadcast to South Vietnam:

"We should completely destroy the present Southern government and set up another one....at present the authorities in southern villages are seriously shaken. Some have been destroyed. The day when all village authorities in South Vietnam are destroyed....will certainly come."3/

5. The political aspects of Hanoi's plan to topple Diem were outlined last September at the Third Congress of the North Vietnamese Communist Party. Speaking to the Congress on 5 September, Le Duan, second only to Ho Chi Minh in party rank, called for a "broad united front" to be formed in the South. This front, Le Duan said, would be "under the leadership of the Marxist-Leninist party" and would "unite all the anti US-Diem forces." Le Duan defined the immediate task of this front as formation of a "national democratic coalition government" in Saigon. The ultimate goal is destruction of South Vietnam's ties with the United States and "peaceful reunification" under Hanoi. 4/



On 29 January, however,

Hanoi Radio proclaimed that "various forces opposing Diem" had formed a united front on 20 December. Hanoi cited Western press services as the source for this information. 6/

7. North Vietnam also broadcast the manifesto of the NFLSV-- a manifesto which bore a remarkable similarity to Le Duan's speech before the party Congress and even used his words in describing its first task: to overthrow Diem and "to form a national democratic coalition government." 7/ In recent months, the NFLSV has received a good deal of publicity; almost entirely from Hanoi.

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11. The majority of Viet Cong rank and file are recruited locally or are old professionals--"stay-behinds" left in the South when the 1954 Geneva Agreements ended seven years of jungle warfare against the French and stipulated that Communist forces must withdraw north of the 17th parallel. However, there is evidence that Communists from the North, trained in paramilitary operations, do continue to infiltrate to provide leadership in guerrilla bands.

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25X1 12. In late December 1960, South Vietnamese troops captured the [REDACTED] This man said he was a graduate of the Hanoi officers school; that he had served in a North Vietnamese division; and that he infiltrated South Vietnam with a small group of men in August 1959 coming down across the 17th parallel. 9/ Four other prisoners, captured in October 1960, said they had infiltrated in July 1960 by way of Laos.10/

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13. Cambodia apparently is another favorite Viet Cong sanctuary and liaison route to the North. [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED] these liaison routes were sometimes worked out in cooperation with Cambodian military commanders along the frontier who would look the other way when the Viet Cong went by in exchange for intelligence on South Vietnamese military forces. 12/

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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